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DEMOCRATIC
# GERMAN REPORT

Vol. VIII NO. 21 | October 9th 1959 | Price: 15 Pf, 5c., 3d.

# SEVEN YEAR PLAN

## Wages Up 60%: Pensions Up 50%:
## New Houses For One in Seven: TV Sets For 75%

**By 1965 the people of the German Democratic Republic will enjoy unexampled prosperity, and the standard of living will have overtaken that of many of the most advanced capitalist countries. At the same time the Republic will enjoy the advantages of a socialist form of society, such as the abolition of the exploitation of man by man; full equality for women; and proper care for the sick and aged.**

**This great leap forward was outlined in the Seven Year Plan, covering all branches of the economy, which was unanimously approved by the People's Chamber, the Parliament of the Democratic Republic, on October 1st, just six days before the Republic celebrated its tenth birthday. The Seven Year Plan covers the years 1959—65 inclusive.**

**Here are some of the targets envisaged for 1965:**

**1. Industrial production up 88% over 1958. This means that industrial production will be well over five times as high as it was in the same area in 1936, the last normal pre-war year.**

**2. Real wages will be up by at least 60% over the 1958 figure, and the work week will be reduced to 42 hours in many industries.**

**3. Old age pensions will be increased by at least 50%.**

**4. 700,000 new housing units will be provided, which means new housing for one in seven of the population.**

**5. There will be huge increases in the production of long-lasting consumer goods, so that by 1965 three households in four will have TV sets and one household in four refrigerators.**

# . . . Details of the Great Plan . . .

Introducing the plan to the People's Chamber, Deputy Prime Minister Walter Ulbricht stressed the fact that the Seven Year Plan was above all a peace plan, and made the following points:

a) The plan showed the peaceful aims of the German Democratic Republic, and demonstrated that all the schemes of the West German industrialists to undermine Democratic Germany had failed.

b) The plan made no provision for re-armament or conscription, and not a pfennig had been earmarked for atomic arms.

c) The plan would help the conclusion of a peace treaty with the two German states.

d) The plan helped the all-round development of fraternal relations with the socialist states: the lack of any trace of imperialism in the policy of the GDR would help the establishment of normal relations, on the basis of peaceful co-existence, with all capitalist countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and America.

e) The plan would aid in the peaceful competition between the two German states, thus bringing nearer the day when Germany could be reunited as a peaceable democratic state. The plan showed that Germany could never be reunited as an imperialist and militarist state.

f) The plan is Democratic Germany's contribution to the forces of socialism in the peaceful competition between socialism and capitalism.

Here in more detail are some of the goals set by the Seven Year Plan. Detailed statistics of some main features of the plan are given on page 166:

### *Industrial Production*

By 1965 industrial production will by 88% higher than in 1958. The average annual rate of increase will be between 9% and 10%. This huge increase will be achieved by means of the thorough rationalisation and automation of production. There will be an increasing division of labour with the other socialist countries, under which each country will concentrate upon those branches which it can handle most economically.

This means, for the GDR, particular emphasis on the chemical industry (production by 1965 will be more than double that of 1958); machine

**The Case of the Murderous Minister** ☛ **See page 169**

tools (production will be increased by 154%); and light industry. To provide power for the new and expanded factories, huge new power stations will be needed, raising per-head production of electric power, already one of the highest in the world, from 2010 kilowatt hours in 1958 to 3590 kilowatt hours in 1965. The first atomic power plant in the GDR is scheduled to go into operation in 1962.

## *Standard of Living*

The great increase in production will be reflected in a greatly improved standard of living. By the end of 1961 West Germany will have been overtaken in the per-head consumption of most main foodstuffs and consumer goods, and by 1965 it is planned to be well ahead.

In the plan period real wages will increase by over 60%. Part of the increase will come in the form of wage increases, and part in the form of further price reductions. The table on this page shows in detail how the standard of living will improve.

## *Agriculture*

Agriculture will be further mechanised in the course of the Seven Year Plan, and a total of over 70,000 new tractors and over 50,000 other agricultural machines will be provided for farmers during the course of the plan. Agricultural production cooperatives and nationally-owned estates which at present till about 50% of the area of the GDR will continue to be fostered, but no targets for a further collectivisation of agriculture have been set. "The high output on the basis of socialist large-area production in the nationally-owned estates and agricultural production cooperatives will set an example for the development of farming in the whole of Germany," the plan states.

In the sector of forestry there will be a 20% reduction in lumbering, and a big programme of reforestation to make good timber losses particularly during the war years and immediate post-war period. The decrease in timber production will be made good both by imports and by wider use of plastic substitutes for wood in the furniture and other industries.

## *Transport & Communications*

A big shipbuilding programme will increase the merchant navy of the GDR from 140,000 tons in 1958 to 480,000 tons in 1965, and the great new deep-sea harbour at Rostock will play an increasing part in the foreign trade of the GDR. A new four-lane motor-way 150 miles long will link Berlin with Rostock.

# WATCH IT RISE!

## Consumption Per Head in GDR

| | 1958 | 1961 | 1965 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Meat** (lbs) | 112 | 127 | 131 |
| **Milk** (lbs) | 215 | 278 | 311 |
| **Cheese** (lbs) | 8 | 10 | 11 |
| **Eggs and Egg Products** (units) | 181 | 207 | 250 |
| **Fish** (lbs) | 29 | 34 | 40 |
| **Butter** (lbs) | 26 | 28 | 30 |
| **Margarine** (lbs) | 23 | 23 | 23 |
| **Citrus fruits, bananas, etc.** (lbs) | 13 | 18 | 36 |
| **Cocoa Products** (lbs) | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| **Coffee** (lbs) | 1.5 | 3 | 4.4 |
| **Shoes** (pairs) | 1.2 | 1.7 | 2.1 |
| **Wool textiles** (square yards) | 2.4 | 3.6 | 5.4 |
| **Refrigerators** (per 100 homes) | 2 | 9 | 27 |
| **Motorcycles** (per 100 people) | 3.5 | 4.4 | 5.3 |
| **TV sets** (per 100 homes) | 6 | 29 | 77 |

# STATISTICS ON THE GROWTH OF PRODUCTION

| | 1958 | 1961 | 1965 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Pig iron** (thous. tons) | 1775 | 1945 | 2150 |
| **Rolled steel** (thous. tons) | 2301 | 2570 | 3500 |
| **Plastics** (thous. tons) | 93 | 153 | 311 |
| **Synthetic threads** (thous. tons) | 7 | 13 | 39 |
| **Phosphates** (thous. tons) | 136 | 193 | 284 |
| **Motor tyres** (thous units) | 1626 | 2430 | 3750 |
| **Steam turbines** (megawatts) | 505 | 1047 | 1606 |
| **Chemical machinery** (million marks) | 201 | 340 | 506 |
| **Machine tools** (million marks) | 444 | 652 | 1128 |
| **Agricultural machines** (million marks) | 368 | 663 | 829 |
| **Cars** (thousand units) | 38 | 70 | 108 |
| **TV sets** (thousand units) | 180 | 560 | 760 |
| **Refrigerators** (thousand units) | 52 | 163 | 371 |
| **Washing machines** (thousand units) | 50 | 149 | 212 |
| **Electric kitchen mixers** (thousand units) | 10 | 186 | 263 |
| **Cotton cloth** (million square metres) | 337 | 441 | 555 |
| **Wool cloth** (million square metres) | 35 | 60 | 94 |
| **Dederon silk** (like nylon—million square metres) | 4 | 9 | 30 |
| **Dederon stockings** (million pairs) | 35 | 52 | 79 |
| **Carpeting** (million square metres) | 7 | 12 | 18 |
| **Meat** (thousand tons) | 615 | 769 | 895 |
| **Butter** (thousand tons) | 162 | 204 | 241 |
| **Cheese** (thousand tons) | 35 | 45 | 67 |
| **Fish** (thousand tons) | 86 | 125 | 215 |
| **Frozen fruit & vegetables** (thousand tons) | 10 | 16 | 24 |

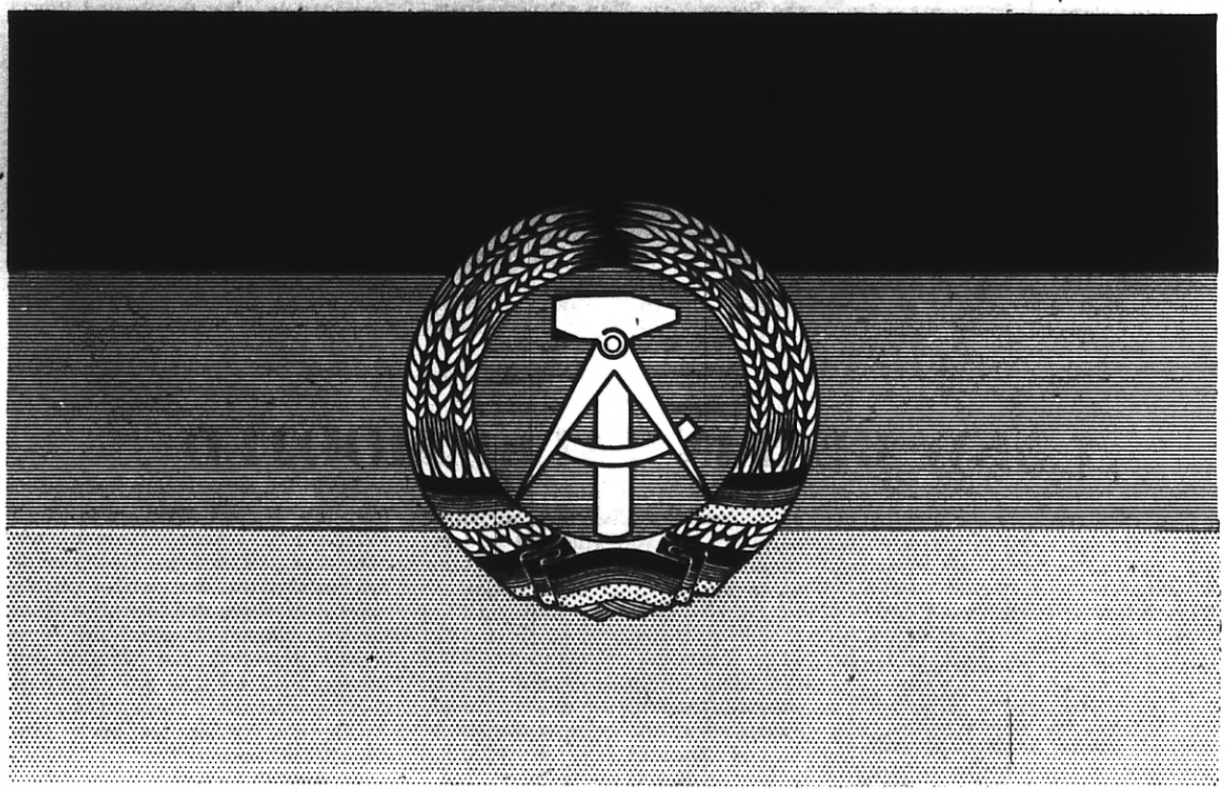
The inland network of airlines will be expanded to carry five times as many passengers as at present.

The telephone network will be greatly extended. By 1963 all telephones will be converted to the dial system, and by 1965 the direct-dial trunk system will cover 80% of the GDR.

## *Foreign Trade*

Export trade will be increased by 86% by 1965, in order to provide the foreign currency needed both for raw materials and consumer goods imports. Main export article will continue to be machinery. Long-term export and import agreements with

# GDR ADOPTS NEW FLAG



Democratic Germany has adopted a new flag to stress the difference between the two German states. Since 1949 the two German states have flown exactly the same flag, and this has led to confusion both at home and abroad.

The flag change was decreed by the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic. The colours of the flag will remain the same — black-red-gold in horizontal bars, but the coat of arms of the German Democratic Republic is now added.

An official government announcement stated: "In West Germany the flag of black-red-gold is misused and soiled as a symbol of remilitarisation: the emblem of the German Democratic Republic on the state flag is designed to bear witness to the peaceful democratic development of the Republic."

The coat of arms in the centre of the new flag shows a hammer and compass within a wreath of grain.

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(The old flag of Imperial Germany consisted of horizontal bars of black-white-red, and this was superseded in 1919 by the present colours of black-red-gold, traditional German Republican colours. The whole course of the Weimar Republic was marked by recurrent "flag fights", when right-wingers, including officials, refused to recognise the new flag, which they referred to as the "black-red-mustard" flag.

One of Hitler's first governmental acts was to abolish the Republican flag, and to reintroduce the old Imperial standard, which was flown together with the swastika banner.

When the two German states, the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic, were formed in 1949, both of them adopted the old Republican flag as their official emblem.

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the socialist countries will continue to account for about 75 % of the foreign trade of the GDR.

## *Education & Social Services*

By 1964 all children in the GDR will be attending school from 6 years to 16 years. To handle the larger number of pupils 700 new schools with a total of 16,500 classrooms will be built by 1965. 80,000 new teachers will be trained during the course of the Seven Year Plan. The number of new students admitted to universities and technical colleges will rise from 37,000 in 1958 to 54,000 in 1965. Evening schools of university standard will increase the number of students from 21,000 to 36,000. By 1965 the universities of the GDR will be turning out 2.4 times as many mathematicians, physicists and chemists as at present; four times as many civil engineers; nearly twice as many doctors; and over twice as many teachers.

The health services, already one of the best in the world, will be further extended. During the period of the Seven Year Plan a large number of new hospitals with a total of 13,800 beds will be built. This will provide

an average of more than 12 beds per 1000 of the population.

Old age pensions will be raised from an average of 134 marks monthly in 1958 to about 215 marks monthly in 1965.

### *Building*

By 1965 new housing will be going up almost twice as fast as it does today, and during the seven years of the plan a total of almost 700,000 new apartments will be provided at the prevailing low rents. This means that one family in seven will be re-housed. By 1965 at least 80% of the housing developments will be constructed of pre-fabricated parts. The building material industry will be greatly expanded to meet the rising demand for cement, glass, and all the others things needed. By the end of the Seven Year Plan all new apartments will be provided with built-in kitchens.

### *Working Hours and Productivity*

Working hours, which averaged 45 hours weekly in industry in 1958, will be cut to 42 hours weekly in many branches of industry beginning in 1962. It was officially explained that further cuts in the working week could not be envisaged as yet, owing to the fact that from 1960 the number of new entrants to industry will fall sharply, owing to the very low birthrate in Germany during and immediately after the Second World War.

Automation and rationalisation will lead to a big increase in productivity during the Seven Year Plan. An average annual 9% productivity increase per worker is foreseen. At present the GDR still lags behind West Germany in productivity: in 1958 the average industrial per-head production amounted to 3800 marks, while in the GDR it only amounted to 3300 marks. By 1965 this figure will have increased to 6400 marks.

# NEW BERLIN TALKS MOOTED

New discussions on the problem of Berlin are envisaged as the result of the meeting between US President Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Khrushchov at Camp David.

The communique issued on September 27th after the meeting stated:

"With respect to the specific Berlin question, an understanding was reached, subject to the approval of the other parties directly concerned, that negotiations would be re-opened with a view to achieving a solution which would be in accordance with the interests of all concerned in the interest of the maintenance of peace."

At a press conference on September 28th President Eisenhower for the first time indicated that the United States now recognised that East Germany had a legitimate interest in the solution of the Berlin question. Here, in full, are the remarks made by President Eisenhower on the subject:

"Now the Chairman (Mr Khrushchov) and I discussed the Berlin question at length. Now, as you know, no specific negotiations can be carried out in such a question as this without our allies, but you will have read the communique which brings up this point and said that negotiations are to be re-undertaken after making proper arrangements, so, in the aim to get a solution that will protect the legitimate interests of the Soviets, the East Germans, the West Germans, and above all the western people.

"And, over and above this, we agreed, in addition to what we said, the communique said, that these negotiations should not be prolonged indefinitely but there could be no fixed time limit on them ..."

(Question: "Can we take it that your agreement that there is to be no fixed time limit on the negotiations over Berlin also means that there can be no fixed time limit on our occupation rights there, and our access rights to that city?")

"Well, of course, there can be no fixed limit. We do say this, all of us agree that this is an abnormal situation, all the world does.

"Here is a free city, sitting inside a Communist country, and 110 miles from the Western Germany to which it feels it is a part. Therefore, the only way you can get a solution is by negotiations that will probably take some time, and we agree that these should not be unnecessarily or unduly extended, but we did say there is no fixed time limit in which they be limited."

(Question: "When we move into these new negotiations on Berlin, could you tell us whether we will be guided by the same standards and principles that we had before, namely that any solution must guarantee Allied rights there, and protect the freedom of the West Berliners?")

"I can't guarantee anything of this kind for the simple reason I don't know what kind of a solution may finally prove acceptable, as I say, but you must start out with this. The situation is abnormal. It was brought about by a truce, a military truce, after the end of the war, an armistice, and it put strangely a few — or a number of free people in a very awkward position. Now we've got to find a system that will be really acceptable to all the people in that region, including those most concerned, the West Berliners."

Premier Khrushchov, in an interview given in Moscow on September 29th stated:

"The Soviet Union is confident that all interested parties will make all efforts to solve the Berlin problem in the interests of a reduction of tension in Germany and Europe, and in the interests of strengthening peace. President Eisenhower at his press conference expressed quite correctly the content of the agreement which we reached. We agreed that discussions on the Berlin question should be resumed, and that no time limits would be set, though they should not be prolonged indefinitely."


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# THE CASE OF THE MURDEROUS MINISTER

One of Adenauer's ministers has been forced to admit that he was an officer of a special quisling murder gang responsible for mass murders in the city of Lvov after it was captured by the nazi Wehrmacht in 1941.

At the same time the Minister concerned, Professor Theodor Oberlaender, formerly a captain in Hitler's Storm Troops, attempted to throttle public discussion of his past record by obtaining a court order confiscating all copies of the West German weekly "Die Tat" dated September 26th. The paper had aired charges that Professor Oberlaender had been an accomplice in the mass murder of Polish professors, lawyers and scientists in the city of Lvov on July 4th 1941, just after the Germans had captured the city. The people murdered included Professor Kazimir Bartel, one-time Polish premier.

Charges of a similar nature had been lodged with the Prosecutor's Office in Bonn by the West German Association of Nazi Persecutees. The charges cited evidence that Oberlaender had been a captain and "political leadership officer" in the "Nightingale Battalion" of the nazi Wehrmacht. This battalion was a special cloak-and-dagger formation mainly composed of Ukrainian fascist emigres, and played a prominent part in massacres in the Ukraine when German troops marched in in 1941.

The Bonn public prosecutor took the unusual course of submitting the evidence to Minister Oberlaender before taking any further steps, and Oberlaender replied to the charges on September 26th by stating that firstly, he was only a lieutenant in the murder battalion and secondly, the rank of "political leadership officer" did not exist in the nazi Wehrmacht at that date. He also claimed that the mass murders in Lvov were not carried out by the invading Germans, but by the Soviet authorities.

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Who is Professor Oberlaender, and what is his record?

His official title today is Professor Dr Dr Theodor Oberlaender, Federal Minister for Expellees, Refugees and War Damaged. He is 54 years old.

In 1933, Oberlaender joined the Nazi Party. In 1934 be became a "Hauptsturmfuehrer" or captain in the brown-shirted SA, and was appointed one of the leaders of the "Volksbund für das Deutschtum im Ausland" (League for Germandom in Foreign Countries). The official U. S. State Department White Book "National Socialism published in 1943 (Department of State Publication 1864) quoted pages of evidence to show that this "Volksbund" was an important part of the nazi Fifth Column, and cited an official spokesman of the "Volksbund" as stating "the leaders of the Volksbund are without exception National Socialists of the spirit and not just the party."

The official nazi publication "Das Deutsche Fuehrerlexicon" for 1934–35 names Oberlaender as head of the East Prussian branch of the Volksbund.

Documents found in the secret archives of the pre-war Lithuanian political police show that Oberlaender was suspected in 1933 of fifth column activities in Lithuania. A secret order dated September 21st 1933 gave instructions for him to be shadowed when he visited the country. In 1934, at the trial in Lithuania of a group of Germans who had tried to stage a putsch in Memel, Oberlaender was named as "Nazi Party adviser on eastern European problems".

In the early part of the Second World War, Oberlaender, who by that time had become the "Reichsfuehrer" of the "League of Germans in the East", another nazi fifth column outfit, was occupied in expelling the Poles from those parts of Poland which had been annexed outright by the German Wehrmacht.

In an article which he wrote for the April 1940 issue of the magazine "Deutsches Bauerntum" (German Peasantdom), he outlined his racialist ideas:

"The greatest task which faces us after the overthrow of Poland is the re-Germanisation of the territories integrated in the Reich ... There are cases where it is not longer possible to tolerate the coexistence of different peoples in the same area. The preservation of the purity of the race ... is only possible if the alien racial element leaves the area completely ... The Germanisation of the eastern territories must at all costs be total ... It is an impossible situation that people of alien blood should be allowed the honour of cultivating German soil. The new eastern territories will only have become fully German from a racial point of view ... when a master class

## Oberlaender Today

**Here are two quotations from the speeches and writings of Professor Oberlaender in the past few years. It should be remembered that he was not speaking as a private person, but as a minister in Chancellor Adenauer's cabinet.**

"We must strengthen those areas of Germany which border on Czechoslovakia, and we must strive for a solution of the Sudeten German problem in the spirit of the Munich Pact" (under which Hitler annexed large parts of Czechoslovakia, ed.).

**Press Bulletin of the West German Government, November 6th 1953**

"The expulsion of Germans from the German eastern territories has cancelled all German war crimes; we are morally absolutely quits."

**Speech in Kassel, November 24th 1954**

(Herrenschicht) with its roots in the soil cultivates the land, and does not have to share it with persons of alien blood."

Some details of Oberlaender's war-time activities were disclosed in the book "The Secret Intelligence Service of the German Wehrmacht" published in Frankfurt/Main in 1957. The author is Paul Leverkuehn, himself a former nazi spy, and today Christian Democratic member of the West German Parliament. Herr Leverkuehn describes how the nazis raised a special sabotage formation called "Nightingale Battalion" composed of Ukrainian nationalist emigres, before the attack on the Soviet Union. "The German commander was Lieutenant Dr Albrecht Herzner ... and the political leader was Professor Oberlaender" Leverkuehn writes on page 136 of his book.

The book "German Rule in Russia 1941–45" by A. Dallin, published in London in 1957, describes what happened after the "Nightingale Battalion" had entered the city of Lvov on June 29th 1941: "In the following chaotic days it became clear to the Germans that Bandera's supporters (Ukrainian fascists, ed. GDR), including those in the Nightingale Battalion, had taken the initiative in liquidations and the organisation of progroms" (retranslated from the German, ed.).

On July 1st 1959, German journalists Werner Goldstein and Willi Porombka, reporting in the Berlin newspaper "Neues Deutschland" on a visit to Lvov this year, quoted interviews with a number of survivors of the great massacre staged by the Nightingale Battalion, of which Oberlaender was the political leader. Lvov citizens told how uniformed men, wearing yellow and blue epaulettes, the insignia of Oberlaender's battalion, had dashed through the streets rounding up Communists, Jews and intellectuals chosen for murder.

At a press conference in Bonn on September 30th Oberlaender admitted that he had served with the "Nightingale Battalion" during the period in question as "expert on folkdom", but denied that excesses had been committed by soldiers of his battalion, or other fascist units. He said that he had experienced "an exalting feeling of happiness" as he marched with his unit of quisling soldiers into the conquered city.

British author Gerald Reitlinger, in his authoritative book "The Final Solution" (Valentine Mitchell, London, 1953), gives rather a different picture of the situation in Lvov while Oberlaender was there. In his account, based on official documents of the nazi war crimes trials, he states:

"A Ukrainian militia with blue-and-yellow armbands was quickly recruited and a thousand Jewish hostages were arrested. Then on July 2nd and 3rd, with the connivance of the SD (nazi security service, ed.) 'Action Petlura' was organised, the symbolic revenge for the murder of the Ukrainian Hetman by a Jew in Paris in 1926. Jews were killed in the prisons, the streets, and in the sports stadium . . . Carried out in all the hysteria of liberation, this killing of 7,000 people had a strong resemblance to the Kovno and Jassy pogroms which preceded it by only a few days"

A few weeks after this mass murder, Oberlaender was transferred to the Intelligence Branch of the Southern Army Group of the nazi Wehrmacht. A document written by Oberlaender in this capacity on October 28th 1941, entitled "Conditions necessary for guarding lines of communication and obtaining the largest food supplies from the Ukraine" is preserved in the files of the Nuremberg Tribunal, which tried major war criminals. On page seven of this memorandum Oberlaender stated: "Apart from securing lines of communication it is absolutely necessary to squeeze out of the country all that is necessary to ensure the German food supply". On page 2 of the document he suggested that these ends should be achieved by "cleverly using the mass of the (Ukrainian) population, and ruthlessly liquidating the partisans."

Later in the war, Oberlaender was placed in command of another group of quisling troops fighting for the nazis. The war-time diary of Dr Otto Braeutigam, today working as West German general consul in Hong Kong, has the following entry under the date December 27th 1942:

I should mention that in Nalchik I met Professor Oberlaender, who leads the 'Bergmann' Group, composed of selected Caucasians, destined for special tasks in the mountains, such as provoking risings of the mountain tribes."

Towards the end of the war Oberlaender was attached as war reporter to a special SS Commando, and was captured by the Americans in his SS uniform.

**... And for the past six years this man has been a Minister in the West German Government.**


# Free Sample Offer

Two of the tens of thousands of citizens of the German Democratic Republic who are moving this year into new apartments form the cover subject for the latest issue of "GDR Review", lavishly-illustrated pocket magazine published in Dresden.

Every issue of the magazine contains articles, pictures and cartoons dealing with many aspects of life in the German Democratic Republic.

The magazine is published in English, German, French, Spanish, Swedish and Arabic.

A free trial copy, and details of how to subscribe, will be sent on application to:

GDR Review
Verlag Zeit im Bild
Bergmannstrasse 46
Dresden A 19
German Democratic Republic

## China and GDR

China and the German Democratic Republic are giving each other valuable help in the common task of building socialism. This was the keynote of speeches at a Berlin ceremony celebrating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Chinese People's Republic on October 1st 1949.

"The Chinese People's Republic is giving us great help in solving our economic tasks, in our fight for the reunification of Germany on a peaceful democratic basis, and in solving the Berlin problem", stated Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the GDR. "On the eastern frontiers of the camp of socialism the Chinese People's Republic is applying all its strength to building socialism, and the German Democratic Republic is doing the same on the western frontiers of the socialist camp."

Wang Kuo-chuan, Chinese Ambassador in the GDR, thanked Democratic Germany for the machines, technical help, and many specialists sent to China. "This help has played an important part in speeding-up socialist construction in our country" he stated.

The Chinese Ambassador conferred medals on 31 specialists from the GDR who had helped to build the artificial silk works at Paoting, a radio factory and glass factory in Peking, and power stations in various parts of China.

## Price Cuts for Coffee

Price cuts for coffee and wine came into effect in the German Democratic Republic on October 1st. The price of coffee was reduced by one-quarter, and the price of wine by an average of about one-fifth.

## W. German Printers Want Contacts

The West German Printing Trades Union has decided to establish a special commission to make contact with print workers in the German Democratic Republic. A resolution to establish the commission was passed by a large majority at the annual convention of the union in Hanover in late September.

The resolution was strongly opposed by right-wing leaders, but was passed after a stormy debate. Official policy of the West German Trade Union Congress forbids contact with the Free German Trade Union Federation in Democratic Germany.

The print workers also approved a resolution declaring "black" all work on neo-nazi and fascist literature. The union will give official support to all members victimised for carrying out this decision.

# "BEARS" BEAT "WOLVES"

Hundreds of British soldiers "invaded" East Berlin on September 30th to cheer on the Wolverhampton Wanderers in a European Soccer Cup match against the East Berlin team of Vorwaerts. The East Berlin team beat the favoured British professionals 2 : 1 in a fast game which was televised to many European countries.

# RUHR MINERS PROTEST

60,000 angry miners arrived by train, bus and boat in Bonn on September 26th in order to protest against canceled shifts and closed-down mines.

The demonstrators, members of the Miners' Industrial Union, marched through the West German capital in 13 march columns for seven hours. They carried placards demanding that the 130,000,000 marks in lost wages be made good, that no more pits be closed down and that Chancellor Adenauer and Minister of Economics Erhard keep their promises to help the crisis-struck coal industry. Both men had left Bonn before the demonstration began.

The police of the whole surrounding area had been alerted and were prepared to move in with fire hoses at any moment to enforce the ban against entering the area surrounding the government buildings. The miners maintained perfect discipline, however, and there were no incidents.

# 70 YEARS ON THE STAGE

The great German actor Eduard von Winterstein, 88, celebrated the 70th anniversary of his first stage appearance on September 30th by performing as usual in the title role of "Nathan the Wise" by Lessing. He is still a regular member of the cast of East Berlin's "Deutsches Theater", the scene of many of his early triumphs.

After his debut in 1889 he played leading parts in the plays by Ibsen and Gerhart Hauptmann which first shocked and then won European audiences. He also acted in the sensational Berlin premiere of Gorki's "Lower Depths" in 1903 and was for many years a close collaborator of Max Reinhardt, Berlin's most famous producer.

Winterstein never compromised with the nazis and, after the war, decided to work in East Berlin where he acted in many films and dramas. He now specialises in classical works like the Lessing drama, whose "ring parable", an appeal for world tolerance, he also recited with great success at the recent World Youth Festival in Vienna.

# BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

On another page of this issue we deal at some length with the very murky past of Professor Oberlaender, Refugee Minister in the West German Government. He is, of course, not the only rather shady figure from the nazi past holding an important position in the West German government set-up. I do not intend to name them all here: we have done this often enough in the past. But I should just like to draw attention once again to Gerhard Schroeder, Minister of the Interior, former nazi storm trooper. He had the nerve on September 27th to represent the West German Government at the ceremony in Worms at which the foundation stone was laid for a new synagogue. The old synagogue, dating back to the eleventh century, was burned and looted on November 9th 1938 by his colleagues, the storm troopers. No information is available as to what Herr Schroeder was doing on that date, but it is known that he was an active storm trooper, and that the entire organisation was mobilised on that date to burn synagogues and stage pogroms. It would be interesting to hear from him exactly what he was doing. Some newspaperman in Bonn might like to ask him this question.

## Remember Globke

And we really must not forget Dr Hans Globke, State Secretary in the West German Government and personal assistant to Dr Adenauer. He is notorious as the man who wrote the official nazi legal commentary to the Nuremberg Laws, the racialist legislation which laid the groundwork for Hitler's attempt to liquidate the Jews of Europe. Research in nazi archives has now brought to light the fact that Dr Globke, who was a leading official of the nazi Ministry of the Interior, was also responsible for a special agreement concluded on November 20th 1938 between the German Government and the government of the rump Czechoslovakia which existed for a few months after the conclusion of the Munich Pact. This agreement in effect outlawed German and Austrian anti-fascists who had sought asylum in Czechoslovakia after the nazis came to power in Germany and Austria. The agreement was signed for the German state by none other than Dr Hans Globke: his signature meant persecution, concentration camp and death for tens of thousands. Do you sleep well, Dr Globke?

## Two More

Just while we are on the subject, this might be a good place to mention that another Minister, Hans-Joachim von Merkatz, who holds the portfolio for Bundesrat (Upper House) Affairs, was decorated on October 1st by General Franco. During the Hitler period Herr von Merkatz was prominent in the "Iberian Institute" in Berlin, which ran the nazi fifth column in the Spanish speaking countries.

And to make sure that the nazi old boys' club in the West German cabinet is kept up to full strength, Chancellor Adenauer on September 30th appointed Herr Werner Schwarz new Minister of Agriculture, to replace Heinrich Luebke who had been kicked upstairs to become the new West German president. At the time of going to press I had not been able to discover whether Herr Schwarz had been a member of the Nazi Party, but records show that during the fascist period he rejoiced in the title of "Reichsnaehrstandsfuehrer" which means roughly "fuehrer-of-the-Reich-nourishment-state-of-affairs". The title is rather misleading, since there were dozens of these "fuehrers", one in each district.

## Anne Frank

In our last issue we dealt at length with the banning by the British Board of Film Censors of an East German film exposing the fact that some of the people responsible for the death of Anne Frank and millions of others, are still prospering in West Germany today. I was glad to see that this ban has led to protests in some leading British newspapers. On September 19th, under the headline "Censor's ban helps shield killers of Anne Frank", the "News Chronicle" reported:

"For the third time in a year Britain's film censor, Mr John Trevelyan, yesterday banned a film about German war criminals. He refused a certificate for 'A Diary for Anne', an East German documentary account of Anne Frank's deportation from Holland to the terror camp where she died.

"The wide-screen Hollywood version of the Anne Frank tragedy, complete with lush musical sound track and hundreds of extras, has been shown throughout Britain without interference. But the German one, using film material captured from Goebbels' secret archives, has upset Mr Trevelyan because it shows that some of Anne Frank's killers are still alive . . ."

The film has been banned by the British Board of Film Censors, but the full and uncensored version is available for club and organisation showing in Britain at a very modest hiring fee from:

Plato Films Ltd.,
18 Greek Street
London W. 1

## Impudence

A delegation of Swiss parliamentarians, visiting West Germany at the end of September, paid a call to the Porsche Car Works at Friedrichshafen. They were met at the entrance and conducted round the works by former SS officer Dr Huegel, whose main claim to notoriety is that he was nominated by Hitler as nazi Gauleiter of Switzerland, if or when the Germans seized the country.

The Swiss newspaper "Luzerner Neueste Nachrichten" described the reception by the SS officer as "unparalleled impudence".

## "Blister"

I had no idea that so many readers of GERMAN REPORT outside the Arab countries spoke Arabic. In the last issue of this paper we appealed for enlightenment from readers as to why an Arab correspondent had asked us for a "blister", when he obviously meant a copy of this paper: since the appearance of the issue in question we have been snowed under by letters and phone calls clearing the matter up. The explanation is simple: in Arabic the word "majalla" means magazine, and „majla" means blister. (I am now steeling myself for the flurry of telephone calls and letters explaining that this explanation is all wrong, that I have transliterated the words wrongly, and what have you. I don't care: the explanation pleases me.)

Edited and published fortnightly by John Peet. Democratic German Report, Friedrichstraße 167/III Berlin W 8, Telephone 22 29 68. Printed in Germany by (204). Veröffentlicht unter Lizenz-Nr. 694 beim Presseamt des Ministerpräsidenten der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik.